

Eastern Region Edition

From Flaming Gorge to Navajo
Mountain

April 2002

in this issue

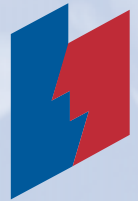
Executive Director

Bob Gross Resigns	2
TrendLines Magazine	2
2002 Employer Conference	3
Kudos	3
KVEL Radio	4
Employment Centers	4

State of Utah
Department of Workforce
Services

Eastern Region
Judy Chambley,
Regional Director
1680 West Highway 40, Suite 203B
Vernal, Utah 84078
(435) 789-7597
(435) 789-7525 Fax

EMPLOYER *Update*



Update on the Oil Industry: The Halliburton Vernal Office

Oil and gas companies form a large sector of the economy in the Uintah Basin. The Halliburton operation in Vernal, serving the states of Nevada, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and northern New Mexico, has really experienced the ups and downs of the oil field. In the late 70's, the Vernal office employed 300 people, while in the mid-80's, during the oil price slump, employment dipped to 35. Presently, the company has 150 employees. Halliburton is anticipating a decent year for oil-related services in 2002, and a good year in 2003.

Pam Moritzky, Office Manager, has been with Halliburton in Vernal for 21 years and is a veteran of the oil field. "Halliburton has treated me very well, and they have great benefits, but we'll always have the good times and the lean times in the oil patch. So much of what we do is based on the price of oil," says Moritzky.

When the Halliburton office in Vernal has openings for truck drivers, they use the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) for recruiting. Moritzky says the Vernal Employment



Halliburton truck is loaded and ready for work at field site.

Center is a "good scout for us in recruiting drivers, and they know just what we need and what we look for in truck drivers. We have enjoyed our relationship with Workforce Services."

Halliburton has been using DWS for the past several years. "They almost always have three types of driving jobs open," said Ben Taylor, Vernal representative for DWS. "They need drivers for the fracturing, cement, and logging trucks. Halliburton offers good benefits including health insurance, education assistance, and a 401K plan. They will also provide training to assist a worker in obtaining a Commercial Drivers License (CDL)."



Pam Moritzky, Vernal Office Manager for Halliburton, meets with Ben Taylor from the Vernal Office of the Department of Workforce Services



Bob Gross Resigns from Workforce Services

Bob Gross, the Executive Director of the Utah Department of Workforce Services (DWS), resigned his position effective March 1, 2002. Bob has announced he will be a candidate for Utah's first congressional district seat vacated by the retiring Jim Hansen.

In a message to DWS employees, Bob said the decision was a difficult and painful one. "This has been an especially painful decision for me personally. Serving as the Executive Director of DWS has been, for me personally, a labor of love during the past six years (including the nearly five years of our actual operation). I have come to regard so many of you as deep and sincere personal friends. The thoughts of leaving you for a new personal endeavor have been very, very sad and difficult!"

Bob also said he leaves the department in capable hands. "I leave you with what I think and hope you agree, is an outstanding Senior Management Team. With the recent additions of Blaine Crawford as Deputy Director, John Nixon as Finance Director, Tani Downing as head of Adjudication, Kevin Beutler in Human Resources, Greg Gardner in Workforce Information Technology, Chris Love in Unemployment Insurance, and the promotion of Jim Finch as our other Deputy Director, we have strengthened and added to the other outstanding division heads and Regional Directors already in place. Our employee representatives on the Senior Management Team, both past and present, have offered remarkable leadership and employee input to the decisions that the SMT undertakes."

"May I wish each and every one of you the fondest of farewells! A part of my heart will always remain here with you and at DWS. I extend to each of you my best wishes and my best wishes for DWS. You and this department have been my labor of love. God bless you!"

Announcement

Greg Gardner has been appointed by the Governor to serve as Interim Executive Director. Greg Gardner has been with the department since its inception and has many years of experience administering the state's employment and job training programs. He also has the knowledge necessary to keep the department moving forward until a new executive director is named. The selection process is expected to be completed by early April 2002.

TrendLines Magazine Keeps You Up to Speed

By **Connie Blaine**
Workforce Information Coordinator

TrendLines magazine, the newest labor market information product from Workforce Information, has made a big splash in just three issues. Employers, consumers and DWS employees are discovering this great source of economic news, written in plain English.

Our economists, and the guest writers who contribute feature articles to **TrendLines**, lend their expertise to help you make sense of these trying economic times. They condense and interpret the blizzard of economic data out there into easy-to-understand articles and graphs, so you don't have to be an economist to stay well-informed on the economy.

TrendLines' articles are short and to the point, offering the most essential news about the local, state and national economies. Most items also link to websites that provide additional information for those wanting to know more about the topic.

The bi-monthly **TrendLines** magazine is usually posted on the Web at least two weeks sooner than it is available in print. Click on "Economic Information," from the DWS home page (jobs.utah.gov). There you will also find "**TrendLines Extra**" - a weekly bulletin (updated each Monday) on economic news between regular **TrendLines** issues.

Never miss an issue! Subscribe to **TrendLines**, either in print, or electronically. Contact Workforce Information at (801) 526-9786. Become a regular reader of both **TrendLines** and **TrendLines Extra**, and you'll astonish others with your economic knowledge!

Smart business people know where to find the latest, most accurate information available about economic trends, the labor market, cost of living and industry trends. There's county-level economic information too, and it's all free and up-to-date on the DWS Economic Information web site: jobs.utah.gov



EMPLOYER CONFERENCE

***“Economic Realities
and the Workplace.”***

4 April 2002

**South Towne Expo Center
9575 South State Street**

On Thursday, 4 April 2002, the Department of Workforce Services, along with several public and private sponsors, will host the fourth annual **Utah Employer Conference**. The purpose of the Utah Employer Conference is to provide businesses, both large and small, topical information as well as innovative solutions to the myriad of complex problems that surface on a daily basis. The theme this year is: “Economic Realities and the Workplace.”

The Utah Employer Conference will be held at the South Towne Exposition Center in Sandy. The Governor has been invited to address the attendees and comment on the state of the state and its economy. Also, the Department of Workforce Services will release its much sought after Utah wage data. And, the most family-friendly employers will be announced and recognized for the fourth annual Work/Life Awards.

The keynote speaker will be nationally renowned economics and business writer and contributing editor of *Newsweek*, **Rich Thomas**. Mr. Thomas has written and contributed to scores of cover stories on economic developments in the U.S. and abroad.

Topics covered this year during the breakout sessions may include the following:

- Cultural integration and the bottom line
- Economic forecast
- Effective mediation
- Employment law update
- Women in the workplace
- Work/Life practices
- Workplace realities
- UWORKS unveiled
- ... and more!

The price to attend the Utah Employer Conference is \$65.00 per person. For information, or to register with your MasterCard or Visa, call (888) 920-WORK (9675).

New Web Features Coming for UI Employers

Be on the lookout for your April issue of the *Employer Advisor* newsletter featuring exciting new web capabilities for Utah's UI tax paying employers. The *Employer Advisor* will be enclosed with your quarterly report forms.

KUDOS

To Cathy Carey and Tracy Harris-Belnap:

“Thank you very much for providing such powerful classes for us. I feel charged up to tackle my life during this depressing time of unemployment. I also appreciate the Utah Department of Workforce Services for providing these fantastic, informative classes.”

Yuri Bennett

About Gerald Gappmayer:

“I just wanted to praise your workers in the Blanding office. I am a single mother with three children. I went in to your offices there in Blanding expecting to get the run around. I was surprised with the respectful and courteous assistance given to me by the case worker. I was very grateful for the help he gave me, if all your workers are like him, you have a great staff.”

unsigned

About Jackie Christiansen:

“[She] really cares about me and she really helped me realize that I was somebody, and not just another case number, by demonstrating her memorable compassion towards me. I really can't put into words my gratitude and appreciation towards her. She really cares about her clients.”

unsigned

Utah Department of Workforce Services
Executive Director's Office
P.O. Box 143100
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-3100

Return Service Requested

Presorted
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Salt Lake City, UT
Permit #4621

Eastern Region

KVEL Radio Spots



Clay Johnson, KVEL radio

Twice every weekday, for the past 20 years, two telephone calls go out from KVEL, a Vernal radio station. The first goes to the Vernal Office of Dept. of Workforce Services (DWS) at about 8:50 a.m.; the second to the Roosevelt Office at about 1:15 p.m. A DWS employment counselor eagerly awaits – well, maybe not eagerly – his (or her) turn to talk live on the radio with Clay Johnson, the KVEL representative. After some lighter chit-chat, the DWS spokesman gets to the serious work and reads off all the current job openings. Clay said the job information “is a great community service” and offers variety to their radio programs.



Brad Anderson, DWS

Employment counselors who do the radio spot look forward to their turn with anxiety and enthusiasm. “It sounds strange to hear your voice on the radio,” says Brad Anderson, “but I know the call is effective, as I have customers call fairly quickly after the spot has aired asking for information about the job.” The radio time also allows DWS staff to highlight upcoming employment seminars and career fairs.

Contact us:

Blanding	678-1400
Castle Dale	381-4700
Moab	719-2600
Monticello	587-2016
Price	636-2300
Roosevelt	722-6500
Vernal	781-4100